The Marker Lamp

Volume 59 Number 3 Summer 2013

Create Signs and Decals
Using the Internet

All Aboard!
The Membership Express

Convention Wrap Ups
Reports and Photos

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The Marker Lamp

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President's Message

by Steve Barkley

Here's Amtrak's recently painted tribute to U.S. Veterans.

Hi! It's the Saturday after the 4th of July. My wife Judy and I enjoyed celebrating the holiday with her daughter Kathy, son-in-law George, and our grandson, George Jr. We all had a good time and enjoyed brisket, sausage and chicken along with many accompaniments. I trust you all had a happy 4th as well.

A Brief Introduction

Many of you don't know me so I thought I would tell you all something about myself. I'm 64 years old and live in Beaumont, Texas with my wife, Judy. We have been married a bit over five years, both having been widowed prior to our marriage. I am the first model railroader in her life. She is adjusting although still does not understand why I have so many trains stored here and there in our home and why I still continue to occasionally buy more. Sound familiar? Luckily, she is DCC compatible!

I have been a model railroader most of my life and a member of the LSR and NMRA for over 25 years. I started with the traditional Lionel set at the age of 3 and then changed to HO while in college. Two years ago I became MMR #463. For about ten years I also had an operating G gauge layout in my back yard, but two hurricanes in 4 years ended that adventure.

My favorite railroads are the Northern Pacific and the Burlington, stemming from my growing up in Billings, Montana and then going to the University of Montana in Missoula. After 4 years in the Army and then law school at Baylor, my first wife and I moved to Beaumont where we built our home that includes a train room! My layout is loosely based on the Northern Pacific in Western Montana.

Donna Orr and Mike Bodak

Donna Orr was elected Treasurer of the LSR and assumed her position at the annual meeting following the convention. She has much experience in business and in finance. I find that she has great attention to detail. She has been working with our outgoing treasurer, Tom Browning, to make a smooth transition.

Mike Bodak was elected secretary of the LSR. Mike has a cheerful disposition and began his job during the new business portion of the Annual Meeting. Many of you know how difficult it can be to keep track of what actually happens during a large meeting. Mike compared this to herding cats without the assistance of catnip. He kept smiling and then worked with Tom Browning to put together the minutes found in this *Marker Lamp*.

Many thanks go to:

Bill McPherson

Bill McPherson served four years as president of the LSR. When Bill assumed the presidency, the LSR faced a challenging financial future. The LSR relied primarily on convention earnings to fund expenses. Each year the cost of publishing and mailing the *Marker Lamp* increased. For the past several years the LSR lost money.

Bill and other officers recognized that electronic publication of the *Marker Lamp* would both save money and result in a better publication. His leadership in guiding this change will result in the LSR remaining solvent.

Tom Browning

Tom Browning served four years as secretary treasurer of the LSR. Tom did two very demanding jobs and kept his sense of humor. He produced complete and understandable minutes. His financial reports were accurate to the penny.

Along the way, he also completed his MMR, in Z scale, no less, and now is working on earning the 4 certificates that he does not have.

Larry Swigert and Mike Mackey

Larry Swigert and Mike Mackey are co-chairs of the LSR Membership Committee. They and their committee manned booths at train shows throughout North Texas to promote the LSR and NMRA. The net LSR membership increased from 1058 in April, 2012 to 1134 in April, 2013. During the same period, national NMRA membership decreased from 19,368 to 19,120. Kudos, Guys!

Marc LaChey

Mark LaChey served as chairman of the 2013 LSR Convention. From start to finish the convention was well organized and worked well. The busses ran on schedule. The clinics were varied and interesting. Attendees uniformly appeared to be having a great time. Well done, Marc!

Thank you all for asking me to serve as president of the LSR. I am looking forward to working with all the talented modelers and families that make up this great region.

Steve Barkley, MMR

Lighterage work at Erie Railroad's Weehawken Yard in the 1950s. The crate might contain an automobile. In collection of author.

Heavy Lifting

By Riley Triggs

As I finish putting together this very heavy *(43 pages!)* issue, I keep thinking about how much heavy lifting is being done by so many people throughout the Lone Star Region. This issue unintentionally is a partial testament to some of the people and outcomes of all of this heavy lifting.

Every single article in this issue can be viewed through this filter - whether through its content or simply the effort to compile and present information for the good of the larger community.

This starts with the president's message and his thanking some of the many members who have served as officers and chairs this past year, and an introduction to those who are stepping up to take on new duties.

It continues with the many upcoming events and meetings listed in "Up the Tracks" that are being put on and organized by members spending time and effort to make a place for others the enjoy being part of the hobby.

Next, the feature article on a technique for making signs from images found on the Internet is a selfless effort to spread information and to help others in a particular modeling activity. As is Walter Zahn's efforts to foster a vibrant Pass Exchange community.

Carrying on is an article on the efforts of one individual who has had remarkable success in building membership for the NMRA and region. His heavy membership lifting has even been recognized nationally and is an inspiration to all interested in helping the hobby.

Following this is a smattering of coverage of the DFW Lonestar Express LSR Regional Convention that includes evidence of the excellent modeling and layouts shared and brought to attendees by a dedicated and hardworking group of convention hosts that created a great venue for all of this fun.

Lastly, and perhaps most telling in this tale of heavy lifting, are the reports of activities from the chairs and directors. There is a lot going on out there, and these members do a majority of it, and I bet a majority of that isn't necessarily reported. The length and quality of their quarterly reports are impressive (and the inclusion of photos turns these reports into something more like articles.)

So as you are lifting this hefty digital issue of the *ML*, think about how it represents some of the heavy lifting done by members like you everyday to benefit the local, regional and national pursuits of model railroading.

Riley

rileytriggs@gmail.com

Your next arrival:

Lone Star Regional Convention

June 4-8, 2014

Wingate Hotel and Convention Center

Round Rock, Texas

http://bluebonnetlimited.com/

Up The Tracks

By Bill Dryden NMRA & LSR Life Member

Here are upcoming events within the LSR of which I am aware. I will provide all the information YOU send me, or I can glean from other publications, websites, etc., for these events. Additional information may be available through the NMRA *Scale Rails* and/or various trade magazines or various websites. Also, note that all show times and dates are at the discretion of the sponsoring organization and are subject to change. Please forward any and all information about upcoming events or activities in your area, club, etc., to me via e-mail at bdr149@airmail.net. Column submission deadlines are the 15th of January, April, July and October; publication of the *Marker Lamp* is the middle of the following month.

Lone Star Region 63nd Annual Convention (2014)
The Lone Star Region NMRA 63rd Annual Convention will be held in Round Rock, June 4–June 8, 2014. Check the LSR website http://www.lonestarregion.com/convention.shtml Come all!! PARTICIPATE!!!

RECURRING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

LSR Division 3 - Northeast Texas Division - Garland
South Branch of the Library located at 4845 Broadway Blvd. in Garland, TX. Third Saturday of each month. Occasionally the day or branch changes due to scheduling conflicts so pay close attention to the e-mail meeting notices that go out a week before the meeting. For more information contact Jerry Hoverson at jhoverson@tx.rr.com or check the Division 3 Page on the LSR website

Alamo Model Railroad Engineers - San Antonio
The Alamo Model Railroad Engineers meets the 2nd Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Zucht Building at the Texas Transportation Museum, 11791 Wetmore Rd., San Antonio TX. For more information call Peter Shavney (210) 317-3661 or Gene Turner (210) 355-2777; or visit the web site www.alamomodelrailroadengineers.com.

Houston Area Live Steamers -Houston
HALS has over 9,000 feet of track for you to enjoy and ride on most any Saturday of the year. Someone is usually there every Saturday with special run, operations, waybills/timetable, work and fun run days scheduled throughout the year. Our public run days are the third Saturday of the month March through November. Come see our 2,500 foot expansion in Phase 4. Model Railroaders (any scale) are welcome to attend most any time. Check our web site out at www.hals.org for schedule of events or e-mail Peter Bryan at peterb@pdq.net for more information.

North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs - Irving
The North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs (NTC) meets the third Tuesday of the month. Visit the website www.dfwtrainshows.com for more information about the NTC, its meeting site or member clubs.

EVENTS AND SHOWS

August

17th Lone Star Division/Train Collectors Association Train Show & Meet. Sat. 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adults $6.00, Family $9.00. Holiday Inn Express, 700 Central Parkway East, Plano, TX. For more information: contact Brian Jensen (972) 414-1340.

September

21st – 22nd 31st Annual Temple Model Train Show. Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Adults $6.00, Children 12 and under free with adult, discount for seniors and active duty military and dependents. Frank Mayborn Convention Center, 3303 N. 3rd Street, Temple, TX. For more information: e-mail Ron Miller RonMiller1480@gmail.com.

28th Lone Star Division Gulf Coast Chapter/Train Collectors Association Train Show & Swap Meet. Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Adults $6.00, Family $9.00, 12 & under free. Cypress Creek Christian Community Center, 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX. For more information: contact Cari Olsen (281) 277-7630 or www.tca-gulfcoastchapter.org.

October

5th – 6th Galveston Railroad Museum 2013 Train Show. Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Adults $8.00, Children 12 and under free, Train rides $5.00. Galveston Railroad Museum, 2602 Santa Fe lace, Galveston, TX. For more information: contact Sandi Cobb or Morris Gould (409) 765-5700.

11th – 12th Alamo Model Railroad Engineers 25th Annual Fall Train Show; Sat. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Adults $8, Children $4.00. Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Road, Live Oak, TX. For more information: Ron Sandoval (210) 559-3072.

11th – 12th Southwest O Scale Meet. Fort Worth, TX. (Location TBD) For more information: www.swoscale.com or e-mail swoscalemeet@gmail.com.

26 – 27th Austin Model Railroad Jamboree, First United Methodist Church 1004 N. Mays St., Bldg. #3, First United Methodist Church, Round Rock, TX; Saturday 8:30AM-2:00PM with afternoon and evening layout tours Saturday and Sunday. Tom Pearson (512) 388-2918 and CenTexNMRA.org

November

16th – 17th 5th Annual Fall Train Show. Sat. 10 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adults $7 (18 – up), Children $2 (5 - 17). New Braunfels Civic Center, 375 S. Castell Ave., New Braunfels, TX. For additional information, please call Howard Young at (210) 542-6121.

Hank's Oyster Bar with sign decals made from images found on the Internet

Creating Your Own Signs and Decals

Text and photos by Jeff Palmer

A few weeks ago, I was attending a Division 3 meeting when I was asked the questions about how I made my signs for my structures. When I replied that "I searched for them on Google, and after printing them, I turned them into decals." This statement drew a lot of attention and I was asked to do a presentation, so here it is. The process is simple, but before we start, we need a subject. My first project using this technique was a road side store called the Oyster Shack. The original construction project was presented by a fellow member of Division 3, Mike Jobe. The detailing of the shack was a childhood memory from when I lived in Southern California. So let's start by turning on your computer and starting up Google (www.google.com) (figure 1).

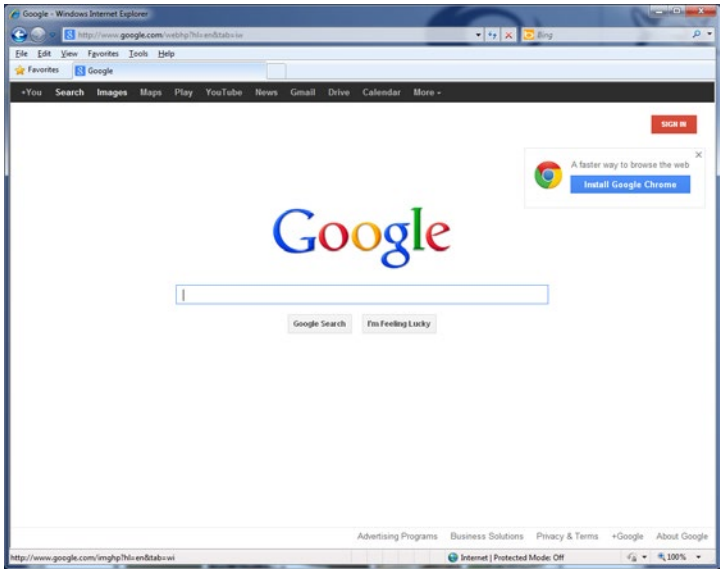


Figure 1. Google home page

The first thing you do is enter "Oyster Shack" in the search box. Rather than hitting the Enter key, go to the black bar at the top of the Google screen – that's the line that begins with +You followed by Search and then Images. Click on Images (figure 2).

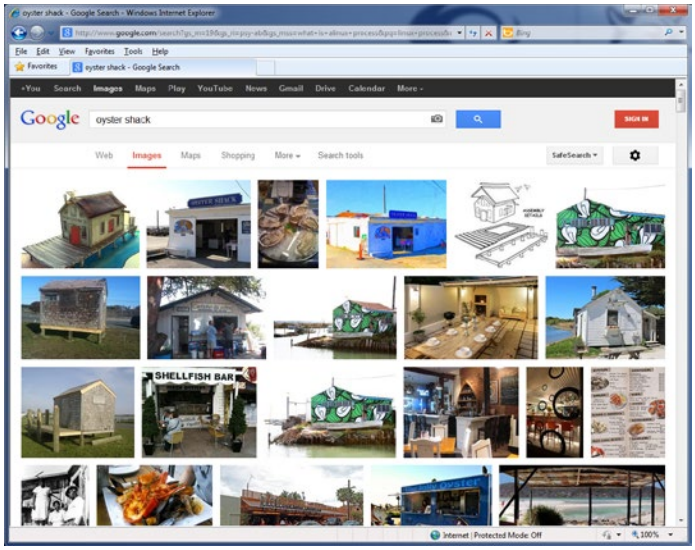


Figure 2. Google "Oyster Shack" results

The will result in a number of images that has something to with Oyster Shack, so let the searching begin. From here you begin looking for images that fit your theme or subject, but most importantly, it gets your attention. This is how I found Hank's Oyster Bar. Keep in mind; the images you are gathering are all jpeg's (.jpg), so they can be resized as needed (figure 3).

This is my basic collection for Hank's Oyster Bar collection.

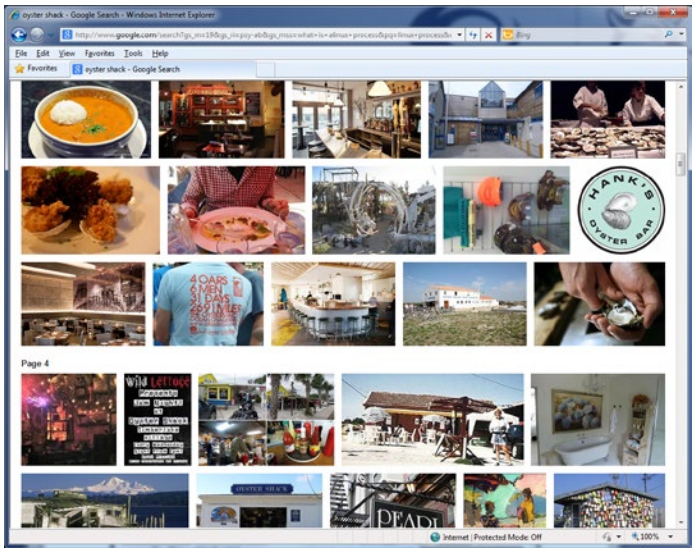


Figure 3. Hank's Oyster Bar image search results

Next I located miscellaneous signage: Coke, Budweiser, and other signs.

Now, it's time to print. I print on a HP LaserJet 3700, color laser printer. The advantage of a laser printer is it uses toner, a dry ink, which is melted onto the surface of the paper. If you are using an Inkjet printer, the ink is absorbed into the paper. This means the ink drying process needs more drying time. Even though the ink may not smear when

Figure 4. Hank's Oyster Bar Logo

touched, the ink may not be totally dry. Let the ink set for at least an hour. If the ink is not completely dry, spraying the ink with paint will cause the ink to run and ruin the signage.

I need to add a special note here, some old-school inkjet printers use an ink that smears when it gets wet no matter how much drying time your allow. To solve this prob-

Figure 5. Hank's Oyster Bar Advertisements

Figure 6. The Paints

lem, take your print to Kinko's and they can color copy or print your signage using the latest technology.
As mentioned earlier, the next step is to coat the signage with a clear-coat. For this step, use cheap clear-coat paint like Krylon "Crystal Clear" or "Matte Finish" from Wal-Mart (figure 6).

Before spraying, secure the printed signage sheet by weighing down or taping down along the edges of the paper. The main reason for securing the edges is to limit the amount of curl the paper will experience during drying. It's easier to work with flat signage later when we're removing the paper backing (thinning). If you haven't had the joy of trying to "thin" curled paper, it's an experience you can live without. The first application coat of clear-coat paint is critical. You want to "mist" it on from about 12-18" above the paper (figure 7).

This light coat will act as a sealer for our remaining coats of paint, protecting the signage. Several quick, light coats, is better than a heavy coat when working with inks. Remember the paint has thinner in it and will try to dissolve the ink on the paper. I use four to five light coats allowing each coat to dry before applying the next coat. DO NOT apply a coat of paint if the previous coat is still tacky to the touch. Once the final coat is applied, I usually let my signage dry over night, but an alternative is to read the instructions on the can for dry time. When reading the instructions, you do not want the dry to the touch time; you want the complete dry time.

Figure 7 Spray 12"-18" above the signage.

The next step is to cut out the signage. Use a sharp #11 X-Acto and a steel straight edge. Don't skimp on the blades; use a new blade to cut out your signs. Old blades tend to snag and tear the paper. One of the secrets to making good decals is to trim the signage as close as possible without damaging them. Where possible, I use the steel ruler to protect the sign while I cut it out.

Figure 8 The cut out – sharp knife, ruler protecting the sign

This brings us to the most difficult step of the entire project, the thinning/removal of the paper. Once the signage has been cut out, it's ready to get wet and remove some of the paper backing. BE SLOW and GENTLE in this step. Start by placing the signage in a saucer of water and allow it to soak for a minute or two. Remove the signage from the water, and lay it face down on a flat surface. Begin rubbing the back of the signage with your index finger (first finger).

After six or eight strokes, if the paper does not start rolling up, return the signage to the water and allow it soak for a few more minutes, and repeat the test. The idea is to remove the paper backing from the signage. Apply as little pressure as possible to accomplish the task, especially as the paper thins.

For the laser printer signs, thin until almost all of the paper is gone. For the inkjet printer signs, thin until the ink begins to show and proceed cautiously. Some inkjet inks may run when it come in contact with water, you will have to experiment with the process until you achieve the desired effect; remember, if the ink is not thoroughly dry, this process will cause the ink to run. DO NOT add detergent to the water, as this will leave a detergent film on the signage and will cause issues with the inkjet inks! When you have thinned the signage, set it aside, and let it dry. I place the sign between small sheets of wax paper, and then I place a weight on wax paper to help the sign dry flat.

Figure 9 You can begin the "thinning - the black of the sign

When you're ready, remove the sign from between the wax paper sheets, and dry test it on the spot where you want to place it. If it looks good, lay the sign face down on the wax paper and apply a thin coat of clear drying glue (I use Pacer Formula 560 Canopy Glue) to the back side of the signage. When coated, immediately apply the sign to its final destination. Do not wait, immediately start working the sign into the surface, just like you would any other decal. I normally use a soft, dry sponge, pressing it into the cracks of wood, or the layers of bricks. Weather the sign just like you would any other decal.

I hope you have enjoyed the article. Remember, if you tear a sign accidently, you can always print another one and do it again. Who knows, the damaged sign might be perfect sign for your project.

Some finished examples follow on the next page:

Figure 10 The finished products

All Aboard!

The Membership Express

Jerry Hoverson, center right, leads the meeting; Duane Richardson, left center in yellow, readies his clinic; Larry Swigert, far left, waits to announce awards; Mike Jobe, in front of Larry, setting up his clinic.

Larry Swigert and NMRA membership

Text and photos by Roy Stockard

Much has been written about our hobby slowly dying off because almost all of the members of the NMRA are over the age of 45. The refrain is that if we do not start bringing in more young people, this dinosaur (our hobby) is headed for extinction. Well, this may or may not be true. The hobby seems to be thriving depending upon whether or not the model products that we crave and order through our local hobby shop are available. And, membership in the NMRA has grown recently, especially in Division 3 of the Lone Star Region, by a whopping 80 new members since the beginning of 2013.

This remarkable feat was achieved primarily through the leadership and motivation provided by the division's Chairman of Membership, the Conductor of The Membership Express, Mr. Larry Swigert!

Larry Swigert

Larry has been nationally recognized by President Charlie Getz in his *NMRA Magazine* July 2013 column entitled Volunteers Wanted and at the Lone Star Convention 2013 for this accomplishment. Maybe there are some lessons to be learned from Larry's approach. But first let me tell you a little about him.

Larry and his layout today

He, like most, if not all of us, became captivated by railroading as a young child. At the age of six he rode on a steam locomotive engineer's lap and was the envy of all his cousins as he chugged into the station. He was born is Bartlesville, Oklahoma in the early 40's but grew up near the train station in Enid where his grandfather worked for the railroad.

Larry has a superbly detailed layout in a spare room in his home. He produces excellent models, many of which have earned him First Place recognition at Regional Conventions.

First place caboose

This caboose, which was part of his logging train, won First Place in a previous year as a single entry and the complete train won Favorite Train of the Convention this past June. In 2011 and 2012, his Great Circus Train won Favorite Train as well.

Now that you know a little more about Larry, we can move on to his recruiting success. Judging from his 2013 record, maybe membership in the NMRA can be increased. I think we can all agree that the hobby will benefit from more members, thereby increasing funds to continue the work of setting standards, providing research material and historical data, all of which enriches our modeling.

Final touches

Speaking strictly from my experience as a lone wolf/armchair model railroader for years, I was first drawn into the NMRA after seeing a flyer placed at my local hobby shop by Larry announcing the time and location of the next Division meeting. He had convinced the hobby shop owner that this would help his business. He also convinced him that providing discount coupons would more than pay for the cost of the coupon. I have won probably $50 worth of these coupons myself over the years, and spent 10 or 20 times that much while redeeming them. He nailed it --- everyone wins --- with hobby shop discounts!

Larry's weathering techniques

At the Division meeting, a game show attraction (the kids and adults love this one) called Deal or Dud is used to award the discount coupons. Raffle tickets are presented to everyone attending and are used as a chance to win the big prize of a $25 off discount coupon in one of the numbered 1 through 5 boxes. The others boxes contain $15, $10, $5 discounts and then, the dreaded box of Milk Duds! Even with Milk Duds, you can't lose. Larry's game show provides some

Circus train models

Soooo, that's where you have been hiding!

Favorite Train at the Convention award

laughter, applause and helps keep the younger crowd (those under 60) --- entertained.

He likes to quote Gil Freitag by saying that "it is not about trains, it's about people!" One of Larry's talents is listening to people. By asking the right questions and listening carefully to the answers, one can find out what is important to an individual. Again, using myself as an example, Larry on more than one occasion mentioned that I was a photographer, which had nothing to do with trains but eventually gave me an idea of using my expertize to photograph model railroads.

Larry knows that to draw in members, the current members must be fed and watered regularly. By that I mean, he interjects into the meeting on a regular basis, kudos here and there recognizing an accomplishment or personal story about an individual whose name or model has come up. After one of my 'Round Town with Roy' PowerPoint presentations where I show slides of different layouts I have photographed, Larry took the podium to state that I had driven many miles to visit these layouts and VOLUNTEERED to do these presentations. He then asked the question, "How many volunteer points have you earned from these presentations?" He not only recognized my effort, but planted the idea in others that they too can earn volunteer points toward that Achievement Award.

When he needed volunteers to help with the NMRA booth at the various train shows in town, he knew he could call on me and the others in the division who wanted volunteer points to step forward and help out. I am proud to say I just completed the requirements for the Volunteer AP this month largely because of Larry's guidance.

Probably the most important point to convey is that Larry places the NMRA Achievement Program (AP) at the forefront at every opportunity. AP Awards are a main feature of the monthly Division meeting. This creates the enthusiasm that new members see in the current members, which in turn creates enthusiasm in new members – it keeps everyone coming back each month. It is a synergistic phenomenon, but it needs the catalyst that Larry provides by constantly recognizing achievement.

The Volunteers

Final Thoughts

So to sum it up — what I have observed from the Master?
1. Set out **flyers** announcing your Division meetings.
2. Set up a **discount coupon** program at your local hobby shop(s).
3. Introduce a **deal or dud** game show at your Division meeting.
4. **Listen** carefully to find the talents new and current members bring to your Division.
5. **Feed and water** everyone with recognition for achievement, especially modeling and Achievement Program (AP) accomplishments.
6. Identify Master Model Railroader (MMR) candidates and give them ideas on the Volunteer and Author AP certificates.
7. Talk up the AP Awards and encourage progress at every opportunity.

The last thing I must mention about Larry is that he is not only very a entertaining member, but he is also one AP certificate from becoming a Master Model Railroader in the Lone Star Region.

Uncle Larry wants YOU to volunteer!

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC.

May 10, 2013

Bill McPherson,
Pres. Lone Star Region, NMRA
4402 Vista Creek Drive
Rowlett, TX 95088

Ref: Recognition of membership growth efforts by Larry Swigert

Dear Bill,

As president of the NMRA, it gives me great satisfaction to acknowledge the outstanding volunteer efforts by member Larry Swigert and his recruitment efforts over the past few months. Our records indicate that divisions one and three have had one hundred and three new members added from October 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013. In February 2013, Larry sent in a list of eighty-two new members, which I assume he was primarily responsible for recruiting.

If every division and every region had a Larry Swigert, the NMRA would be facing no issues of membership numbers. We would be double our size if not larger. This outstanding effort speaks well not only for Larry but also for the Lone Star region and the NMRA. It takes individual initiative as Larry has clearly shown, to grow our organization. But growth does not stop when a new member is signed up. It is important for all of us to make that new member a part of the NMRA family. I'm sure that Larry is outstanding at both recruitment and retention.

On behalf of the NMRA, it is my great pleasure to commend Larry Swigert, the Lone Star Region and all of your members for their outstanding efforts. Having attended past Lone Star Region Conventions, I know what a wonderful group that you are fortunate to work with. Larry, I'm sure is a good example of what Lone Star Region has to offer. I commend Larry and thank him for his efforts and will be mentioning those efforts in an upcoming column, as I believe they are inspiring for all in the NMRA. Congratulations again and my best to all at the LSR convention. I regret not being able to attend.

Sincerely,

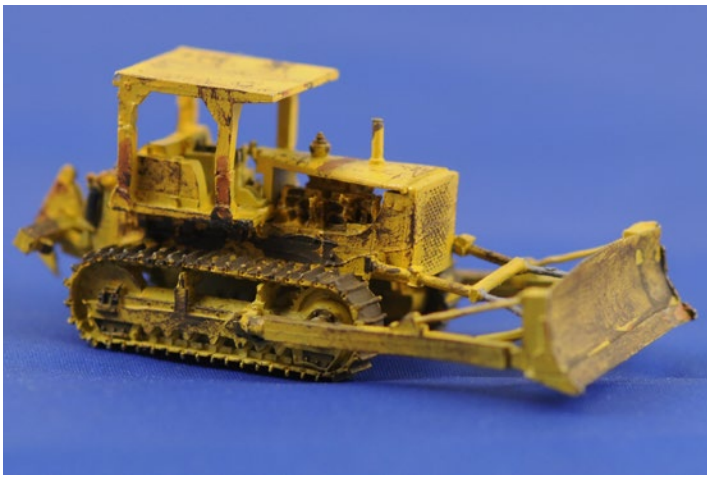
Charlie Getz
NMRA President
cc: Marc LaChey by e-mail

4121 Cromwell Road · Chattanooga, TN 37421-2199 · (423) 892-2846 · Fax (423) 899-4869 · www.nmra.org

Convention 2013

In the contest room

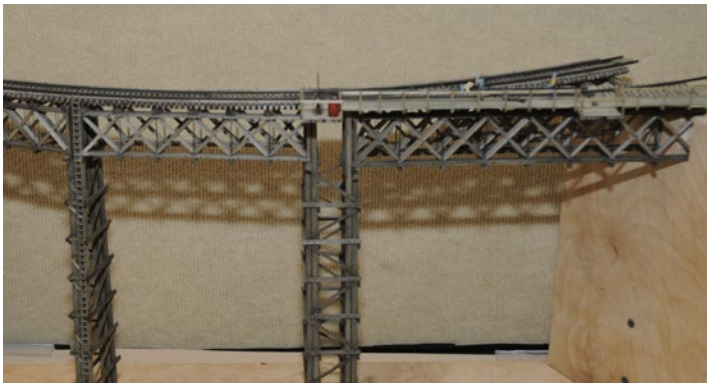
photos by Dave Lamberts



Convention 2013

In the contest room

photos by Dave Lamberts



Convention 2013

Division 3 Achievement Program Award Winners

Text and photos by Roy Stockard

Division 3 garnered a number of regional awards and national AP Awards at the 2013 Lone Star Regional Convention model contest. Below are photos of some of the winners as they were presented their certificates at the last Division 3 meeting held in June. Other winner's certificates did not arrive in time to be submitted by the *Marker Lamp* deadline and will be presented in the next issue.

1. P.J. Mackey wins BEST OF SHOW for her hand made quilt. Shown is her husband Mike helping display the winning quilt. 2. Casey Akin wins BEST OF SHOW for the second year in a row at the Lone Star Regional Convention! Duane Richardson, MMR presenting the award. 3. Jeff Palmer Merits on his Scratch Built Structure and wins FIRST PLACE at the Lone Star Regional Convention. Duane Richardson, MMR presenting the award. 4. Mike Mackey Merits Twice with his Super Detailed Locomotives SP Torpedo Boat Diesel & Amtrak 328. Both models also won FIRST PLACE at the Lone Star Regional Convention. Pictured beside him is Duane Richardson's son. 5. Ken Towery Merits with his kit bashed structure. Duane Richardson, MMR presenting the Merit Award.

Images from the 2013 Convention

photos by Dave Lamberts

Images from the 2013 Convention

photos by Dave Lamberts

2013 Convention Layouts

photos by Dave Lamberts

2013 Convention Layouts

photos by Dave Lamberts

This quarter's pass is colorfully printed in red, white and black on quality stock and is from the *Scrap Board & New Lumber Railroad.* submitted by Thomas J. Diacin of 2231 Sprucewood Drive, Youngstown, OH 44515.

Pass Exchange

Headed by Walter Zahn

The Pass Exchange Program is yet another fun way to connect to other model railroaders through printed ephemera you have created. Railroad passes were distributed by railroads to their employees, associates and partners as well as employees of other railroads for courtesy travel on their system. Many modelers recreate this tradition by printing and distributing passes for their own railways as a way to extend and share their modeling efforts.

Here's how it works

Walter Zahn continues to spearhead the Pass Exchange Program for the LSR. To participate in the program, send Walter two of your passes, and in return you will receive a pass and a list of active pass exchangers. Walter will review the passes he receives and share one in each issue of *ML*.

Send passes and any questions or inquiries to:

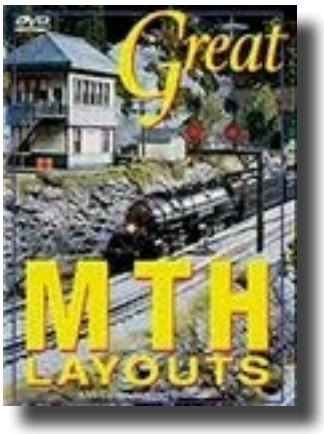
Walter Zahn
3309 Point East Drive
Mesquite, Texas 75150-2645

DVD Review (sort of)

By Riley Triggs

Great MTH Layouts

Mike's Train House



Tom McComas, Joseph Stachler directors. Great MTH Layouts. 2007.
ASIN B00078Y042
Run Time: 120 minutes
Aspect Ratio: 1.33:1
Not rated.

I have been mining the Netflix vaults for model railroad videos to consume, and while I wait for the Bob Symes *How to Build Model Railroads* DVD (which is apparently popular since I have been waiting for a few weeks already), I had the opportunity to view a Mike's Train House production, *Great MTH Layouts*.

This is a fairly good quality production of a "hey this is fun" genre video. I will confess I am in the "serious modeler" category that the narrator pokes at a couple of times and not in the "toy train collector" target audience, so I did not watch every second of each layout tour. The presentation was geared towards generating consumer interest, and I can get past that considering a manufacturer of toy trains produced it.

Good camera work and the interviewees are well spoken and edited pretty well into the B roll of trains zipping around. There is a good variety of types of layout from the table-top temporary set up with no modeled scenery to the more realistic layouts. The narration continues to point out that these were not models, but rather toys, and that operations and/or simulation of the prototype is not the point of the activity.

This is where it started me thinking.

The video concentrated on the sensory experience of the toy train market, which I find the most interesting aspect of the video. This was some insight into the hobby that I had not previously figured out, but I've been meaning to give it some thought for awhile now: what are the different motivations behind the different modes of model railroading?

I'm finally getting to the point where I can easily see the connections between my current actions and childhood experiences that inform them, and turning this gaze on model railroading could be amusing. In the video it is clear that the collectors are looking to feel the thrill of the experience of the moving trains that they had as kids. The "sights and sounds" category of enthusiast obviously enjoys that rush we all had at one point or another of playing with a new toy at Christmas, and collecting and running (versus operating) trains tickles that pleasure center. I totally get that. The *having* versus *making* satisfaction and the *seeing* versus *doing* inclination is what separates the "collector/runner" and the "modeler/operator". This sort of definition could begin to fill out a matrix of scales and type of experience that could map the tendencies of different scales and modeling styles pretty easily. (Maybe that's a rainy day project?).

What is great about this idea is that it is the way someone engages with the hobby that determines the outcome of their efforts and play. Methods of doing and the process of doing them are what is focused on in magazines as a craft and sometimes with a philosophical foundation for the actions in support of the method. The "good enough" versus the "rivet counter" modelers approach to the practice of modeling in very different ways provide differing results that can/should be appreciated in different ways.

Number 8, 1949 (detail) 1949, Jackson Pollock

The poke from the narrator about serious modelers' "looking down their noses" at these collector/runners is an unfortunate comment that helps reinforce the lack of appreciation between different sets of modelers. Yes, it is important to be able to define what one's domain in practice is, but doing so by elevating or discrediting other forms of practice is not productive.

I take the view that the inherent logic and application of one's own set criteria is the more important thing when learning from others. Now when you get within an established order and identify with a set of criteria, then it is open season on criticism to make that established practice better. The problem is when people are judging by their own set criteria other's work that does not share that set of criteria. That is just unproductive at best, and hurtful at worst.

I try to practice this when I visit or see any model railroad (or any endeavor for that matter). I try to be careful to ask questions about what the intent is (usually it is obvious anyway) before I start appreciating the work so that I know how I am supposed to approach it.

Sunflowers, 1888, Vincent van Gogh

An analogous situation would be looking at a work of art. There are certain formal qualities that one can appreciate without knowing anything else about the work, but if one does know something about how it is situated in the art world and how similar works have been approached, it is much better appreciated and evaluated and allows for deeper engagement. I find this approach to layout viewing much more enjoyable than comparing everything against my own personal criteria.

That being said, I love to challenge both others' and my own criteria to help strengthen the logic and the outcomes. This constant testing of beliefs and goals is a good way to produce consistent and satisfying results no matter what you set out to do.

So back to the video. Like so many things I come across, it wasn't that I could take anything specific away from it that I could apply directly to anything I'm doing, but rather it got me thinking about things in general and helped clarify my thoughts on a different level. For that, I'm glad I spent some time watching something that I wouldn't normally be interested in.

Besides all that, though, sometimes it's just fun to watch toy trains be toy trains.

Youth Program Membership

By Bob Mangrum, MMR

The Youth Membership Program is an excellent way for the members of the LSR to bring new and young members into the NMRA and to become involved in what is truly the "world's greatest hobby.

This is the stated objective of the Youth Membership Program as found in Article VI of the LSR bylaws. The program is designed to sponsor up to nine young people with one year memberships in the NMRA. The total number is determined as one nominee for each division and one nominated by the elected officers and directors at large.

These nominees can originate from nominations by individuals who are members of the various divisions, clubs that are located within the divisions, and/or the division director. The proper form and a short sketch explaining why the candidate should be considered, including comments about the young person's interests and activities in model railroading comprise the application. Please refer to the bylaws for more details. If you have questions, please contact me by e-mail at: rmangrum6@hotmail.com Looking forward to announcing nine awardees for 2013!

News

Election Results

Results for this year's election cycle are shown below. These members began or continued their duties at the annual meeting during the LSR Convention in June. See the front of the magazine for contact information for these and other officers and chairs.

President Steve Barkley, MMR, Vice President Bob Barnett
Secretary Michael Bodak, Treasurer Donna Orr
Division 1 Director Chris Atkins, Division 3 Director Jerry Hoverson, MMR, Division 5 Director Dave Lamberts
Division 7 Director Don Kimmel

Golden Spike

Chris Grote from Corpus Christie earned his Golden Spike at the National Train show.

Directors' Reports

Cowcatcher Division 1
by Chris Atkins
chris@railroadermodelers.com
214.222.1285
cowcatcherdivision.com

Hi all, as I write this I've been in the Powder River region of Northern Wyoming doing a little rail fanning. Tomorrow I go to Billings Montana for the annual Northern Pacific Historical Society convention. This year, it is a joint event with the CB&Q Historical Society, whose western terminus was with the NP in Billings.

I hope you all were able to attend our own annual convention in Irving last May. I know I saw a lot of you there and I'm happy to report that Division 1 attendance was the highest, just edging out our neighbors to the east. The goal of the chair **Marc LaChey** was to keep it affordable and make the convention brake even, which he was successful in doing. One thing that co-chair **Larry Swigert** and **Mike Mackey** knocked out of the park was the amount of raffle prizes wrangled from the best vendors. The money from the raffle is split between the convention hosts, Divisions 1 and 3, which should keep us in bagels and coffee for a while longer.

At the board meeting, we saw a significant change in leadership. Most of the current officers decided not to run again this year and I hope you welcome all the new board members aboard, especially new president **Steve Barkley** from Beaumont.

We had a division meeting at the LMRA earlier in May that had great attendance of 20 members, exceeding our 18 average. **Denny Bullard** presented a clinic on compressing his home town into just 35 inches. Denny is a fantastic prototype modeler and always does a great job presenting clinics.

I sent out an email to all the local layout owners about this year's DFW Interchange in October. Of course, the Cowcatcher Division has lost three of the largest layouts in the metroplex. Besides the LMRA and Texas Western, I was very sad to find out that **Shane Murphy**'s excellent Katy/T&P layout in Argyle had been torn down and the property where his 1895 T&P section house is kept put up for sale. The good news is that as I write this, Shane and I have come to an agreement on the property and section house. Stay tuned, it looks like I'm moving to Argyle.

July 13, 2013 Westbound Powder River coal near Clearmont, WY.

I haven't set a date or place yet, but we'll have a division meeting in August. I'll send out an email.

Hope to see you all there,
Chris

2013 Cowcatcher Division 1 Annual Report
Chris Atkins
Division 1 Director

The Cowcatcher Division has continued to hold meetings in Ft. Worth alternating between the LMRA clubhouse and the Texas Western clubhouse.

In October the Division set up at the LMRA train show in Ft. Worth along with LSR Membership Chair **Larry Swigart**. We had an extremely successful show, signing on new members.

In November, we took part in the Ft. Worth Holiday Train Show, once again. Turnout was off slightly from 2011. The Saturday turnout was more than all of last year's show. We were able to add a couple new members at the Ft. Worth show.

In January, Division 1 was fortunate enough again to host a Worlds Greatest Hobby on Tour show at the Will Rogers Coliseum in Ft. Worth. **Larry Swigart** once again stepped up and went above and beyond. Larry negotiated a great spot up front with 4 tables that attracted a lot of attention not only for the LSR but the NMRA. I have heard that the 30 or people that we signed up set a NMRA record.

We also participated once again be in the Plano Train Show in mid January. The Cowcatcher Division presented half of the clinics, which included members **Don Murphey**, **Cody** and **Casey Akin**, **Don Winn** and myself. We also had help from **Duane Richardson**. We will also continue to have two show shares next year. We also picked up a few more new members.

We had division meetings in July, September and November of 2012 and January, March, May of 2013. In July, **Bill Seifert** presented a clinic on collecting brass. I'd like to thank everyone who has participated in the division meetings, especially those who presented clinics like **Denny Bullard** This year, **Bob Mangrum** nominated 16 year old **Luke Broussard** as the youth sponsor. Luke is active in the 7 ½ gauge railroad at the railroad museum in Brownwood.

I'm once again very please with the number of volunteers we have from Division 1 on the 2013 Lone Star Express Convention in Irving. Also, Division 1 has roughly the same number of attendees as Division 3, but the highest turnout when measured as a percentage of members. Unfortunately, none of the divisions have over 25% turnout, which is all together too low.

This past year has brought sad news affecting the livelihood to two local division clubs. First, the LMRA club in Ft. Worth has lost its home and as I write this they are looking for a new space. Fortunately, they have negotiated to keep the layout with the current landlord. Also, the Texas Western Club in Ft. Worth, a 100% NMRA club, is in danger of loosing their home. This news is fairly recent and the details are forthcoming. Please keep both of these organizations in mind.

Bayou Division 2
by Rod Fredericks
fredericks.rod@gmail.com
225-939-0187

What a grand convention! My hat's off to **Marc LaChey**, **Larry Swigert** and all of the guys on the Lone Star Express convention committee for organizing and putting on such a fine five-day program. The tours were great, both in number and substance, numerous excellent home layouts were open for visit and operations, the clinics covered a broad spectrum of modeling and prototype subjects, and given by excellent presenters. Participation in the model contest was a little down this year, but the quality of the entries was just as fine as past LSR conventions. And what a Saturday night we had. There was a raffle rumored to have had some $10,000 worth of prizes, model contest awards, and an excellent dinner with an address from **Al Harper**, owner of the Silverton & Durango Railroad. Once again, my thanks to the Dallas/Ft. Worth area guys and all of the sponsors that made such a fine time for all of us, and I encourage those that did not attend to consider the convention next summer in Round Rock. The committee there is already working had to put on just as good a program.

The Bayou Division continues to be very active with the bi-monthly operating sessions at the Mid-South Model Railroad Club here in Baton Rouge, and operating sessions on **Art Houston'**s fine layout in Houma, and **Lou Schultz**'s B&O layout in Covington, LA. The Mid-South sessions are held on the first Saturday of each even-numbered month. We have to limit the number to 22 operators (including club members). If you are interested in attending one of these afternoon sessions drop our club's operations chairman, Art Houston, an email (ahouston3@charter.net) to get on the list. For other information about the club and layout, our website is www.midsouthmodelrrclub.com/.

Additionally, the Greater Baton Rouge Model Railroad in Jackson LA. and the Crescent City Model Railroad Club in the New Orleans area continues their activities and will host open houses in the fall. The Crescent City Model Railroad Club is also actively recruiting new members. Anyone interested in finding out more about this club should visit their web site http://www.ccmrc.com/.

Upgrades to the Mid-South layout continue at a brisk pace. The new industrial area that was added a few month ago is finished now and including scenery, and wiring on the sixth and seventh nodes (of a total of eight) continues. Additionally, at our semi-annual business meeting a number of new projects were discussed and some approved, and **Dick Schneider** was elected as our new president.

Interest by some in the division is also growing in the NMRA Achievement Program. There are a number of AP's that one can earn, and earning seven can qualify and NMRA member as a Master Model Railroader. There are only some 500 of these accomplished individuals since the start of

the program thirty plus years ago. Check the NMRA web site (www.NMRA.org) for details. If anyone in the Bayou Division is interesting in earning a few AP's, contact me via email (fredericks.rod@gmail.com).

So that's all for now. Happy Model Railroading.
Rod

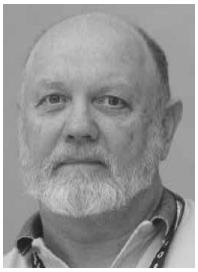
2013 Bayou Division 2 Annual Report
Rod Fredericks
Division 2 Director

During my first year as the Bayou Division Director I have spent much of my time getting to know the model railroaders beyond Baton Rouge and the immediate area. I have done so through personal visits, and telephone and electronic contact. There is a lot of model railroading in the Bayou Division. This is evident from my personal contacts this year, and the numerous operating sessions hosted by our local club, and layouts at **Art Houston**'s home, and **Lou Schultz**. The problem in expanding participation as I see it, is that beyond these sessions there is not much additional interaction. There are no division shows, general meetings or workshops, etc. to spread the word of our great hobby and meet new people or learn new skills. I hope to change that this year.

I have talked with the other club in the Baton Rouge area, and with the Crescent City club with the view of putting on a weekend meeting with clinics, etc. One of these people is a director with Louisiana Public Broadcasting, so perhaps we can get a little publicity beyond the model railroad community. And maybe we may even get a few new NMRA members.

I have also updated two of the three categories (clubs and hobby shops) on the LSR web page for Division 2. Most to the data there had not been updated in the last ten years. The Activities category still needs attention. One update has been made, but a number of the activities listed don't exist anymore. I hope to have this done within a week or so.
As Art Houston mentioned in his report, he and I have given careful consideration to hosting a LSR convention in Baton Rouge. We have made a number of visits to local hotels to discuss costs and inspect their suitability as a host facility. We have also talked with the other Clubs in the area to solicit their support and willingness to volunteer. The response has been encouraging.

I will continue to pursue the efforts listed above and would welcome any suggestions any of you have to make.



North East Texas Division 3
by Jerry Hoverson, MMR
jhoverson@tx.rr.com
972.540.5315

Did you make it to the "Lone Star Express"? You missed a great time if you didn't. Sure was great to see old friends again and make some new ones.

We're still meeting once a month with our primary time and location being on the 2nd Saturday of the month at South Branch of the Library located at 4845 Broadway Blvd. in Garland. However, watch the meeting notifications closely, we are at the mercy of the libraries and sometimes have to move to a different branch or a different Saturday.

Well, since last I wrote we've had some great clinics. In April we took something as simple as "Signs" and did a deep dive into how and where to apply them to set the scene on your railroad. Here's a couple of examples:

Sign clinic examples

Then in May and June, **Duane Richardson** led his scratch built, laser-cut structure clinic that he also did at the convention. This allowed a lot more folks to try their hand at this then could have if done only at the convention. Here's an example of the structure everyone built, hope to see several of these merit!

Laser cut construction clinic

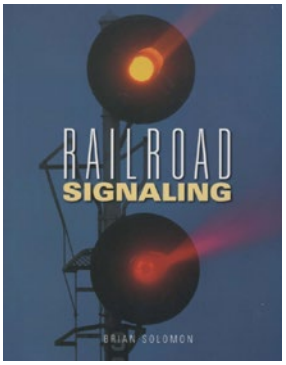
Speaking of "merit" the Trinity River Division again did outstanding in the contest room at the convention including this one by first time contestant **Ken Towery**:

More on our contest winners next time.

OK, so what have we got planned for the coming months? In July we're going to start a 3-part series on signaling.

First we'll jump into how signaling evolved and how and where to place signals on your railroad. Then in August we'll dive into how to control your signals using JMRI on the computer and make them operate just like the real railroads do. Finally, we'll scratch build some signals in September. That is if the creek don't rise!

One more thing to let you know about, **Roy Stockard** has been doing a segment at our meetings called "Round Town with Roy" where he has been visiting various model railroads in the area and presenting still shots and videos on them. Well he's going to change that up a bit and provide tips on "How to photo your model Railroad". Again, he's going to split this up into several mini-clinics and spread it over the next couple of months. You really don't want to miss this!



So, make plans to attend. Take care all and keep "working on the railroad" but most of all get involved with the division and have some railroading FUN!

Jerry

Cen-Tex Division 4

by Jack Merkel
ElmerMerk@aol.com
512.355.3289

CenTexNMRA.org

Many of us from Division 4 attended the Lone Star Express 2013 convention in Dallas in May. **Marc LaChey** and his crew did a great job in providing excellent clinics, many layout tours, operating sessions and prototype tours. Other features included the contest room, a varied non-rail program and an entertaining banquet speaker. I hope you were there to enjoy all that was offered.

We held a Division meeting on Saturday May 25 at the Round Rock Library. I presented a clinic titled "CTC on the LSSF RR". I described how he designed, built and operates a CTC machine for his railroad. I also described the design and use of his telephone system used for communication on his railroad.

We had our show and tell table with several items shown. After the social time, we picked the winners of the gift certificates for Kings Hobby Shop with our Deal or Duds program. After the meeting, we toured **Jim Zwernemann**'s T&NO/MKT RR and **Steve Nelson**'s Sedalia Division of the MKT RR. Jim's railroad featured many scratch built structures and freight cars. He also has hand painted an excellent

Jim Zwernemann's layout

backdrop and hand laid track. Steve's railroad closely follows the MKT prototype track plan. He has built some excellent Midwestern scenery including large detailed corn fields and soybean fields. He also has scratch built some bridges.

Steve Nelson's layout

Our next Division meeting will be on Saturday Sept 28 at the Round Rock Library beginning at 10:15 am. **Pete Guy** will present a clinic titled "Why I built my unusual railroad". We will have our normal show and tell table, social time and Deal or Duds session. After the meeting, we will tour Pete Guy's *Conundrum and Pacific RR*. The library is located at 216 E. Main St. in Round Rock. On I-35, exit at RR 620 (Exit 252B) and proceed East on RR 620 for a few blocks to the intersection with Main St. and continue East on Main St. for another block and half to the library.

On the operating front, David Barrow, Pete Guy, David Nicastro and I have routine operating sessions.

We have continued work on the 2014 LSR Convention which will be held in Round Rock June 4 – 8, 2014. Our web site is now in operation at bluebonnetlimited.com. You can also follow us on twitter @bluebonnet2014 and on Facebook at bluebonnet limited 2014. On Facebook, you will find a musical slide show describing our convention plans. We will be adding more information to the web site, so check it often.

We do all communications about our Division 4 meetings via email. If you are not receiving emails about our Division meetings, that means I do not have a valid email address for you. Please send your email address to Elmermerk@aol.com

Until next time, try an operating session. You will like it!

Jack

2013 Cen-Tex Division 4 Annual Report

Jack Merkel
Division 4 Director

We had four Division Meetings – September, November, February and May. Our meetings consist of a clinic, show and tell, social time, deal or duds, and a layout tour. We also have poster boards describing the benefits of NMRA membership, the AP program, and a beginner's corner. We post meeting flyers at our local hobby shop. About 30 people attend each meeting.

We had a NMRA/LSR booth at two train shows – Temple and Round Rock. Our booth has a banner, a poster board describing the benefits of NMRA membership, past issues of NMRA and *Marker Lamp* magazines and member signup sheets. We signed up 12 new members last fall at these shows.

Division 5

by Dave Lamberts
DavidWL1944@aol.com
806.792.7244

Grant me a little poetic license – this was not a division five activity. I did this with my family and I wanted to share it with the LSR.

I just got back from visiting my daughter and son-in-law and two grandchildren on Long Island, NY. They live in Southold, but we had the chance to attend the Railroad Museum of Long Island located in Riverhead, New York, about 30 minutes west of Southold.

This is what that train looks like today. The kids loved it.

The following from the museum's brochure:

Adjacent to the "Main Line" of the Long Island Rail Road,

on Griffing Avenue, is the Museum's Visitor Center. Inside you can view various displays and exhibits, shop in the gift shop and join in a guided tour of our locomotives and rolling stock. On the tour visitors will see and hear stories about the Museum's equipment collection. Some of the cars are the only existing example of their types in the world. Others date back to the turn of the 20th century.

In 1964, the Long Island Rail Road participated in the New York World's Fair. Their exhibit was a 16" gauge train painted up to resemble the full size railroad equipment of the day.

Lionel Electric Trains, (Lionel LLC) has graciously donated the Lionel Visitor's Center Layout to The Railroad

They have a large garden railroad in G scale.

Museum of Long Island. By doing so, Lionel has preserved this historic piece of their history. The Lionel Visitor's Center showroom was located in Chesterfield, MI, down the road from what was once the Lionel factory. Opened in 1992 with the help of the Lionel employees, the Lionel Visitor's Center featured a 14-foot by 40-foot layout with ten running trains and 37 operating accessories.

It traveled by 40 foot container to Riverhead where a band of volunteers planed the reconstruction process.

Originally donated by Lionel, this an amazing O scale layout.

#200 is the world's first all-aluminum double decker passenger car. It was built in 1932 as a joint project between the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA).

I know Long Island is now where near Texas, but if you are ever in Manhattan, it is a short drive down the Long Island Expressway and definitely worth seeing.

Respectively submitted,
David

2013 Division 5 Annual Report
David Lamberts
Division 5 Director

As I mentioned in my last Division Five report, we have been spending a lot of time discussing liability issues within the club. Since our members are not all NMRA members, we are not able to take advantage of the NMRA's liability coverage.

We had discussed forming a Limited Liability Company (LLC) to protect the Board of Directors from law suits in the event of an accident at one of our events. We are currently a 501(3)(c) corporation. Can such an entity become an LLC?

On a lighter note, the Windmill Museum here in Lubbock wants to add a large amount of additional space to the current museum building. As part of this expansion, they want to construct a model railroad suggestive of the older railroads in the Lubbock area. We are seeking volunteers from our club to assist them with this ambitious project. Funding will be provided by the museum.

Division 6

by Tom Crosthwait
t.crosthwait@sbcglobal.net
210.647.3261

I was unable to attend the recent LSR convention in D/FW. I have heard some very positive comments about the tours. Sounds like I missed out on a lot of interesting things to do.

The Lone Star chapter of the European Train Enthusiasts is gathering speed. **Frank Houzvicka**, founder of the Lone Star chapter of ETE is getting the group out and bringing much publicity their way. The following is from the group's recent newsletter:

Since the last newsletter the LoneStar chapter has contin-

ued to make progress in getting our name out to the public, increasing our membership, and collecting revenue. In May Robert Williams and yours truly took our recently acquired mobile layout to the San Antonio Academy for their European Day festivities for their first grade classes. There were interactive displays for seven countries with our table and train layout being the major portion of the Germany display.

If you have interest in European Trains and would like to be associated with this group from San Antonio, please e-mail me and I will forward your message to Frank Houzvicka.

The SAMRA Summer Train Show will have just been completed as you receive this issue of the *Marker Lamp*. This is supposedly the last show of its kind at Live Oak Civic Center. The Civic Center is being sold by the city of Live Oak. All of the area model railroad clubs have used this facility for their jamborees for the last twenty years. It is going to be extremely difficult to find another venue San Antonio such as this one for the organizations to use. The groups will have to scale back on the size of the events or move to sites that will require the visitors to pay for parking.

Summer time is on us in south Texas. Where our friends in the northern states hibernate in their train rooms in the winter, this is the time of year when I turn up the A/C and complete one of those many projects laying on the work bench. My main project is to complete the sale of **Fred Bock**'s estate. Then I will have room to get to my work bench to continue my own projects.

The shop foreman and Tom C discuss the amount of time spent on upkeep.

A few years ago my wife and I had the opportunity to visit the shops of the Texas State Railroad. The shop crew was very accommodating in letting us wander through the shop and storage tracks as long as we promised to keep the hard hats on and not fall in any big holes. For those who have never made the trip, the size of the equipment and tools that they use is astounding. A few of my favorite pictures from the trip are included. The crew was in the middle of a wild game of dominoes when we surprised them with our visit.
Tom

The socket on the bottom row left is 5".

The Great Northern Plow has been used in movies.

It's not always about steam on the Texas State RR.

Division 7

by Don Kimmell
elf4kcs@mac.com
318.798.7718

Greetings from your typical North Louisiana summer…Hot and Humid! Which means it is a great time to play trains…in A/C!!!

Not really too much going on division wise, the folks down in Alex are doing their Summer Junior Engineer Program, I understand that the class is full! Way to go!

Locally, the Sue Lines are operating as usual, every Thursday night.

The ArkLaTex Modular Club is prepping for the National Train Show next week in Atlanta. Getting every thing cleaned, repaired, glued, lubed and spiffed-up to give the public a great show. I will be attending both the Convention and the Train Show, should be a lot of fun.

This was the first LSR Convention I have missed in 9 years, but I am not planning on making it a habit, some of us are still keeping the nose to the grindstone. I am truly sorry to have missed the show Marc and company put on; I understand it was another great one!

We did have one "big" event, not modeling, but in the 1:1 world…the KCS was moving the Ringling Bros' Red Train to Mexico, and they stopped here in Shreveport to "water", as in elephants (7) and 16 horses. A friend, who works for the KCS gave me a call that they were coming, and last year they had stopper to water, so…well, it ended up they took a siding in an industrial park about 3 miles from my house, so my better half and I ran up to see what we could…the train itself was impressive, 14 loaded flats, 36 sleepers and 4 converted animal cars. We got to watch, along with about a dozen KCS employees, as they unloaded the animals-see the pictures. One does not realize how really big the elephants are, till they are just 15 feet away! WOW!! I guess being an Elf has other benefits…we were the only non-KCS types allowed closer that 100 feet. Fun.

I am also enclosing, as per requests from the "upper management" some other pictures that might be of interest.

That is my caboose, which we moved in 1994 to my house, the other is of the ArkLaTex's "Club House-a 1921 Illinois Central Dinning car…it was "free" to whoever could move it, which is a story in itself.

Well, that is about it for right now, got to do some more repair on the modules.

Don

2013 Division 7 Annual Report

Don Kimmell

Division 7 Director

Membership in the Division has held steady, ranging from as low as 26 to as high as 30 individuals, plus the one club in Alexandria.

Recruiting is an ongoing affair, usually at the few train show that occur in the divisional boundaries. I have also

co-shared a table with the KCS' Historical Society at a couple of "train" affairs-such as the opening of the Red River Valley Railroad Historical Society's new museum here in Shreveport. The most active area in the division is down in Alexandria, with their Children's Museum and their Treehouse Project. This is a long-term affair, an investment in the future of our hobby.

I have given three presentations to the Boy Scouts in the past 6 months, one here in Shreveport, one in Gibbsland/Arcadia and one in Tullulah-actually we had the presentation in Vicksburg, but the Troop was from eastern Louisiana.

We attempted to do a couple of clinics, but seeing as there were only 2 members, plus myself, I cannot consider them a division function.

Texas Gulf Division 8
by Leslie Bodak
lbjbodak@gmail.com
281.486.0709

May saw Division 8 begin their clinics with **Ray Byer** presenting How to Tune Your Engine. This was a very informative clinic and also a lot of fun.

May also had folks traveling to Dallas to attend the LSR's Lone Star Express Convention.

The June clinic was held in Beaumont with **Tracy Mitchell** presented Airbrushing from A to Z. This was a hands-on clinic with many of the attendees bringing their own airbrushes. Everyone had a lot of fun and were able to learn using their own airbrushes.

The July clinic will be given by **Barry Bogs** who will be sharing with us how to make molds. The August clinic will be given by **Steve Barkley** and he will be showing us how to he makes his box cars. Our September clinic will be given by **Gordon Bliss** who will be going over passenger car detailing. These clinics should be very informative and also a lot of fun.

Once again, the Galveston Railroad Museum will be having their train show October 7-8, 2013. This is a fun show with lots of layouts for everyone to see. Also in October, Division 8 will be having their annual meeting at Zube Park. This is a fun time and the HALS folks have a train available for rides. Hopefully, it won't rain…

Director at Large
by Art Houston
ahouston3@charter.net
(504) 723-9290

In an effort to improve and widen the communication of the LSR with its members and fellow modelers, I have spent my first year working with **Riley Triggs** and **Jeff Palmer** on the *Marker Lamp* and web site. Riley has gotten the new *Marker Lamp* off to a great start - love the cover on the Spring Issue. Jeff has done a fantastic job with the convention web page and updating information on the Division Web Pages.

I have been working to encourage more members of the LSR to do articles and take pictures for the Marker Lamp. There is no limit to space. The only limit is how much time the editor has to assemble the pages.

Rod Fredrick and myself have looked at ways to hold a convention in the Baton Rouge area in the future and are still looking into it.

My goal for the coming year is to help increase the revenue from the *Marker Lamp*. This will take an effort of not just selling space for pike adds but also getting manufacturers and suppliers to become part of the *Marker Lamp*, as they do in other Regions of the NMRA in their publications. To make this happen we will need more articles and pictures from the community to create interest and increase the number of people viewing the *ML* online.

Achievement Program Report

By Albert G. Boos III, MMR, LSR AP Manager

Expenses for the full fiscal year 12 June 2012 to 2 June 2013 are $72.40. Receipts will be submitted to the secretary at the annual meeting on 2 June 2013.

The LSR processed seventeen certificates and two Golden Spike Awards for the full year. There was one MMR earned.

Certificates/Awards for the year:

MMR 497
Steve Blackson

Official
Jerry Hoverson
Tom Browning

Volunteer
David Lamberts
Dave Kohler
Jack Merkel

Author
David Lamberts
Mike Job
Jack Merkel

Golden Spike
Michael Bodak
Leslie Bodak

Electrical
Steve Blackson
Larry Swigert

Scenery
David Lamberts
Steve Blackson
Larry Swigert

Civil
Steve Blackson
Larry Swigert

Cars
Larry Swigert

Larry Swigert is one certificate (Motive Power) short of MMR and well on the way to completing the minimum requirement for MMR.

Membership Report

By Larry Swigert, Membership Chairman

In 2012 the LSR total membership passed the 1100 mark and is showing an increase in membership while most other regions are either holding their own or declining in membership. That is primarily due to the aggressive recruiting at local train shows by some of the Divisions. If your Division is not recruiting at train shows and would like to do so, please feel free to contact me, and I will show you how to do it. Also, please let me know if I can help you with any other membership issues.

Due to family health issues and a heavy work load at his job, Mike Jobe will be stepping down as my Membership Committee Co-Chairman, and Mike Mackey of Division 1 will be joining the Membership Committee as the new Co-Chairman.

Treasurer's Membership Report

By Donna Orr, Treasurer

At the beginning of June 2013 the membership was 1,124 and at the end of July 2013 the membership was 1152 . Please welcome our new members listed below:

NAME	CITY		DIVISION
Jarrett Carter	Weatherford	TX	01
Jay French	Grapevine	TX	01
Dawn Raimer	Grapevine	TX	01
Chuck Woodward	Wichita Falls	TX	01
Charles King	Denham Springs	LA	02
David Menendez	Metairie	LA	02
John Rose	St Francisville	LA	02
Clark Formaniak	Wylie	TX	03
Heather Formaniak	Wylie	TX	03
William Fritz	Plano	TX	03
Charles Gross	Richardson	TX	03
Jack Harris	Cayuga	TX	03
William Schuster	Dallas	TX	03
James Townsend	Whitesboro	TX	03
George Warren	Greenville	TX	03
Gregory Kane	Killen	TX	04
Randolph Potts	Temple	TX	04
Steve Amitrano	San Antonio	TX	06
Christine Festger	San Antonio	TX	06
Katy Smith	Aransas Pass	TX	06
John West	Selma	TX	06
Rod Duchesne	Haughton	LA	07
John Buckley	The Woodlands	TX	08
Jay Flint	Missouri City	TX	08
Renny Goyert	Livingston	TX	08
Peter Janak	Fulshear	TX	08
Steven Koury	Nassau Bay	TX	08
Jenny Waltmon	Houston	TX	08

Treasurer's Report

By Donna Orr, Treasurer

For the Forth Fiscal Quarter of 2012/2013

Beginning Balance 05/01/2013		
LSR Checking Account		$1,255.97
Vanguard CD Fund		$20,353.51
Vanguard Convention Fund		$10,002.83
Acct receivable for 2014 Convention		$500.00
Total LSR Net Worth		$32,112.31
Not included in Total LSR Net Worth		
Funds Held For Division 1	$3,336.50	
Funds Held For Division 3	$1,208.30	
Funds Held For Division 4	$3,501.10	
Funds Held For Zahn Donation	$400.00*	
LSR Proceeds		
Vanguard CD Fund Interest		$0.60
Vanguard Convention Fund Interest		$0.29
2013 Convention Repay		$2,000.00
Convention Member Fees		$314.00
Pike Ads		$80.00
Total Proceeds		
$2,394.89		
LSR Disbursements		
Youth Membership Program		$28.00
BOD Meeting Copying/supplies		$99.38
Historian Expenses		$38.97
Achievement Program Postage and Copies		$72.40
Website Cost		$59.50
Bank Check Fees		$45.09
Total Disbursements		$343.34
Net Proceeds/ Disbursements		$2,051.55
Ending Balance 07/30/2013		
LSR Checking Accounts Total		$3,307.52
Vanguard CD Fund		$20,353.51
Vanguard Convention Fund		$10,002.83
Acct receivable for 2014 Convention		$500.00
Total LSR Net Worth		$34,163.86
Not included in Total LSR Net Worth		
Funds Held For Division 1	$3,336.50	
Funds Held For Division 3	$1,208.30	
Funds Held For Division 4	$3,501.10	
Funds Held For Zahn Donation	$400.00*	

* These funds are restricted and will become unrestricted at $200.00 per year in April to comply with terms of donation.

Minutes of the Lone Star Region Board Meeting

Submitted by Michael Bodak, Secretary

Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas – June 2, 2013
President Bill McPherson called the Annual Board meeting to order at 9:31 am on June 2, 2013.

Roll call

All of the officers, directors and committee chairpersons were present except:

Voting Board Members:

Bob Barnett, Vice President (Proxy - Jack Merkel)

Tracy Mitchell, Director-At-Large (Proxy - Leslie Bodak)

Tom Crosthwait, Division 6 Director (Proxy - Duane Richardson)

Don Kimmell, Division 7 Director (Proxy - Leslie Bodak)

Non-voting Board Members:

Matt Latham - Dispatcher/Company store

Bill Dryden - Events

Mike Jobe - Membership Co-Chair

Tracy Mitchell - Education

Recognition of Guests

Dave Thornton, Vice President of the National Model Railroad Association, was introduced by Bill McPherson. Bill commented that this may have been the first time in many years that a sitting officer of the NMRA has attended our LSR convention and Board Meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Division 6 Director Chris Atkins provided a motion and Division 3 Director Jerry Hoverson seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve as published the Minutes of the June 10, 2012 Annual Board of Directors meeting published in the 2012 summer issue of The Marker Lamp. The motion designated as 2013-06-02 LSR Motion 1 passed.

Officer, Director and Department Reports

All reports are a part of the meeting Minutes and are located in another section of the On-Line Marker Lamp.

All reports, which are located in other sections of this issue of the on-line *Marker Lamp*, are hereby incorporated into these Minutes.

Special Comment: Tom Browning would like to thank the Board and all the members of the LSR for the opportunity to serve as Secretary-Treasurer with special thanks to Eunice Linda for her advice and historical information about the LSR, Elbert Smith (my predecessor) who helped me learn my job and last but certainly not least my good friend Bill McPherson who guided me through some very good times and some challenging times.

Board Advisor Jerry Schoenberg gave the entire Board a big THANK YOU for the service they have provided over the years.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill McPherson reported that the membership throughout the region continues to grow thanks to the energy of many people such as Larry Swigert. The net LSR membership increased from 1,058 in April 2012 to 1,134 in April 2013. During this period the national NMRA membership decreased from 19,368 to 19,120.

Tom Browning reported that the annual audit of the Lone Star Region's financial records was successfully conducted by LSR members Steve Barkley, Bob Mangrum and Rod Fredericks.

Tom Browning reported that the Convention Fund level is $10,002.46 as of April 10, 2013. Tom Browning provided a motion and seconded by Chris Atkins to leave the Convention Fund at its current level. The motion designated as 2013-06-02 LSR Motion 2 passed.

Bill McPherson reported on the results of the successful 2012 Houston LSR Convention. The Convention Report, prepared by convention chairman Bob Barnett, showed these amounts: the Houston Gross Income was $22,887, the Expenses were $15,977, the Net Profit was $6,910. The Host Group received $3,732.46 (which included Net Non-Shared Income) and the LSR received $3,697.67. Even though the attendance of 191 was low, this excellent financial return was due to careful control over expenses by the convention personnel. Many thanks go to the members of the Houston 2012 Convention committee.

Bill McPherson presented the latest update to the LSR Income, Expenses & Net Worth report which showed the following: For the Fiscal Year 2012-13 the net income was $5,969; net expenses were $8,328, for a net loss of $2,359. This loss was primarily due to the $5,128 cost to print and mail The Marker Lamp. The LSR Net Worth declined from $34,498 to $32,139. It was reported that for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2013-14 the projected net income will be $4,480 which does not included any income from the 2013 Lone Star Express Convention. The projected net expenses will be $3,750 since the printing and mailing expenses of The Marker Lamp have been eliminated by the change to the web-based publication. The resulting projected net income will be $730, and the projected Net Worth will be $32,869. The Net Worth of the Lone Star Region is projected to gradually increase to $35,869 by FY 2015-16. The LSR Net Worth was capped at $40,000 by Board action in 2007.

Riley Triggs, the new editor of The Marker Lamp, was introduced by Bill McPherson. Riley spoke briefly about his plans for The Marker Lamp and that the web-based format would provide space for expanded content and full-color graphics. He encouraged everyone to submit articles and photographs for our official publication.

An item for lengthy discussion was the liability officers and directors face with clubs, and the LSR. Steve Barkley is going to research the NMRA insurance policy to determine the exact coverage available. Suggestions on how to protect officers and directors of non-NMRA clubs will also be explored.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill McPherson recognized and welcomed the new members of the LSR Board of Directors:

Re-elected:

Bob Barnett - Vice President
Chris Atkins - Division 1 Director
Jerry Hoverson - Division 3 Director
Dave Lamberts - Division 5 Director
Don Kimmell - Division 7 Director

Elected:

Steve Barkley - President
Michael Bodak - Secretary
Donna Orr - Treasurer

Tom Browning provided a motion and seconded by Duane Richardson to ratify the re-elected and elected officer and directors. The motion designated as 2013-06-02 LSR Motion 3 passed.

Donna Orr, Treasurer, provided the Lone Star Region "FY 2013-2014 Proposed Budget".

Chris Atkins provided a motion and seconded by Jerry Hoverson to approve the budget.

The various budgeted line items were discussed, and the following changes were made:

2013-06-02 LSR Motion 4a: Motion to add a line item to the budget for Non-Rail Fans in the amount of $500.00. Rod Fredericks provided the motion and seconded by Art Houston. Motion passed.

2013-06-02 LSR Motion 4b: Motion to increase the Historian's budget to $90 for supplies. Art Houston provided the motion and seconded by Chris Atkins. Motion passed.

2013-06-02 LSR Motion 4c: Motion to increase the Centex Convention budget to $1500. Jack Merkel provided the motion and seconded by Art Houston. Motion passed.

2013-06-02 LSR Motion 4d: Motion to increase the Contest Room budget to $700 to cover cost of ribbons. Duane Richardson provided the motion and seconded by Chris Atkins. Motion passed.

The motion to approve the budget as amended, designated as 2013-06-02 LSR Motion 4, passed.

Leslie Bodak provided a motion and Duane Richardson seconded to destroy the ballots of the last election. The motion designated as 2013-06-02 LSR Motion 5 passed.

Chris Atkins provided a motion and seconded by Jerry Hoverson to ratify the Youth Members Luke Broussard and Jonathan Ball. The motion designated as 2013-06-02 LSR Motion 6 passed.

Marc LaChey made a presentation about the LSR co-sponsoring the Sn3 Symposium in Dallas February 27 to March 1, 2014. Rod Fredericks provided the motion and seconded by Duane Richardson. Motion 2013-06-02 LSR Motion 7 passed.

Chris Atkins provided a motion to have Father's Day Weekend as consideration to hold future LSR Conventions. This motion was withdrawn by Chris Atkins.

A committee was formed to research alternatives to on-line publications, Pike ads and commercial ads for The Mark Lamp. Committee Chair is Chris Atkins and members are Ray Byer, Riley Triggs, Jeff Palmer and Art Houston. The committee will report back to the Board during the Mid-Term meeting in January, 2014.

Mike Bodak provided a motion and seconded by Chris Atkins to adjourn the meeting. The motion designated as 2013-06-02 LSR Motion 8 passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 am, June 2, 2013.

President's Report

By Bill McPherson, President

They are MAGNIFICIENT…these old warriors of the past now proudly wearing new coats of repainted armor in their original parade regalia. Yesterday 4-8-4 Frisco Meteor No. 4501 moved through Dallas to its new field of honor at the Museum of the American Railroad in Frisco.

The Lone Star Region, in its 62th year, is also a rejuvenated warrior enjoying new enthusiasm and ready to provide all kinds of railroading to its 1,125 members, the highest number in recent times. Several years ago we were down to less than 1,000 members. According to Charlie Getz, NMRA President, Division 1 and 3 added 103 new members between October 2012 and March 2013. But this membership growth didn't just happen. Throughout the Region, hard work at train meets is providing enticing opportunities for many people to learn more about railroading and the NMRA. Many of our divisions have had record attendance at their meetings and thus have continued to keep the sparks of interest burning brightly. The challenge is to continue to keep these eager railroaders excited about the Lone Star Region.

As shown in my latest "LSR Income, Expenses & Net Worth" projection, the financial situation of the LSR is gradually moving from significant losses to a small net worth increase. Hopefully, within a few years we will be back to a good financial position. This came painfully as one of our most cherished traditions of having a quarterly hard copy of The Marker Lamp was replaced with the 21th century electronic version. Exciting new extended vistas - in living color - are now possible. I encourage you to be a part of this by submitting articles, photographs, and drawings for every issue. Also frequently remind your members to go to our LSR web-site for the latest information.

The Lone Star Conventions are among the finest in the NMRA. Tremendous amounts of effort go into these each year. More so than ever the income from these conventions is critically important to maintaining our financial strength. Since attendance at conventions is declining, this will be an increasing challenge.

My sincere thanks are given to all of you who have worked so hard to build and maintain the Lone Star Region as an excellent organization. My challenge to you is to continue striving to be the very best in everything you do.

I'll see you up the track.

Education Report

As of June 2013

Div 1 – No Report Submitted, Div 2 – No Report Submitted
Div 3 – No Report Submitted, Div 5 – No Report submitted,
Div 6 – No Report Submitted

Div 4 Jack Merkel - We had 4 clinics this past year:
Riley Triggs – The Continuous Model RR – How to model more RR than your room can hold.
Frank Peacock – Introduction to the Petroleum Industry
Joe Dale Morris – Texas and New Orleans RR in transition
Fred Price – Implementing electronic control of a layout – a beginners guide.

Div 7 – Don Kimmel

I have given three presentations to the Boy Scouts in the past 6 months, one here in Shreveport, one in Gibbsland/ Arcadia and one in Tullulah-actually we had the presentation in Vicksburg, but the Troop was from eastern Louisiana.

We attempted to do a couple of clinics, but seeing as there were only 2 members, plus myself, I cannot consider them a division function.

Div 8 Summer Clinics –
Ray Byer – Locomotive Tune Up
Tracy Mitchell – Airbrushing A to Z (June in Orange TX)
Barry Bogs – TBA (July)
August - TBA

San Jac Model RR club Clinics –
Operations Round table Hosted by Dick Louvett (San Jac Pres)
Chris Tolley & Chris Whitehead – RR Radios in Houston
Blake Bogs – Colo Trip
Bodak Family – Railfaning with the Bodaks
Jim Lemmond & Ray Byer – Treezilla
Blake Bogs – How to Modify photos using Gimp instead of photoshop

Greater Houston Train Show Clinics –
David Currey – The Official Guide
Denny McGonicle – Mountains for Beginners
Tom Palmer – The MKT in the Post War Era
Al Partlow – T&NO in the 50's
Bob Sabol – Just Getting Started

Events Chair Report

By Bill Dryden, Event Chair

Not a whole lot to report. I have successfully survived a change in editors. Columns have been submitted, though I do need to work on understanding the term "deadline" – from both personally as well as with several contributors to the page.

Parliamentarian Report

By Bob Mangrum, MMR, Parliamentarian

No report.

Company Store Report

By Matthew Latham, Dispatcher Chair

Company Store Inventory as of July 14, 2013
All cars sold out.

Other items available

Cloth Region Patches $5.00 each (Only LSR Life – 35 avail.)

Auto/Window Region Decal $ .50 (1 avail.)

N Scale (13 avail.) Nevadun Decals $2.00 per sheet

HO Scale (8 avail.) & N Scale (22 avail.) Daw Cha Southern Decals $3.00 per sheet

Shipping: Please add $1.00 for patches and decals

Matthew Latham, Dispatcher
2320 Hickory Leaf Lane
Flower Mound, TX 75022-4945
972-358-6168
E-mail: wnrailway@yahoo.com

Web Site Chair Report

By Jeff Palmer, Website Chair

The current LSR website is continuing to be maintained. The most resent updates are:

- The Division 4 new home page
- The continuing updates for the new *Marker Lamp*
- The continuing updates for the Lubbock Model Railroad Association's June *Staying On Track* newsletter

If you would like to follow the development of the new LSR website use the following URL:

www.geekwithtrains.com

This website has the ability to be "responsive and adaptive". For those who do not speak "techno", this means the website display will adapt to the media it is being viewed on – smart phone, tablet, or regular computer. I am also investigating the possible use of a Facebook account, RSS feed, and other options. The site is also being designed with a blog and news capabilities.

A new procedure has been established to send an email blast when the new Marker Lamp is posted.

Also, annually, I will burn a CD with the years *Marker Lamps* issues for Jim Long.

Publications Report

By Riley Triggs, Publications Chair

I began duties as *Marker Lamp* editor and publications chair in earnest on or about 1 January of this year with a very smooth hand off from Chuck Lind. He has passed along to me a substantial amount of archive material for the Marker Lamp in digital format. I have had great support from chairs and directors, which has made the transition and continued production of the *ML* easier. I have updated the publication production from Pagemaker to InDesign format, and I am still working on optimizing the current product for digital output to PDF. I have not incurred any expenses thus far this year.

To date, I have completed two issues of the digital-only *Marker Lamp*. I have received only a few comments thus far from membership regarding format suggestions. Other direct comments have been supportive and positive, but without specific likes or dislikes. I have heard of only a couple of instances second hand of disgruntled members who either do not have access to or outright do not like the publication's being in a digital only version. At this point, I do not see any reason not to continue to publish only in the digital format.

I have received many general inquiries regarding changes to the ML, and there seems interest in improving and expanding the publication with regards to format, content and advertising revenue. I do not have any specific plans at this point, and I have refrained from making more than minor tweaks to the existing product pending a deliberate participatory design process.

Future plans

A goal for starting the design process this coming year is to conduct surveys and informal and/or formal interviews as well as to solicit email feedback and suggestions for improving ML. A first step is to be able to define the priorities, desires and constraints of the publication so that further decisions and actions can better serve the membership. Surveys will be conducted online and interviews in person.

Beginning this year, I also want to work closely with the web site team and any interested parties on developing a more robust and comprehensive communication approach in general, as well as focus on strategies for delivering a Marker Lamp that is of the first class among regional NMRA newsletter/magazine publications. To accomplish this, a general survey of existing publications has been started to inform decisions and actions during the design process.

I also wish to take a look at the mechanics of voting in the region. I understand at this point that ballots must be physical, but it seems a more efficient publication of these materials can be accomplished. Understanding that this is a change in the by-laws, this may not happen quickly, but I wish to assist in the process of rethinking a more straightforward balloting process.

Long term projects

While updating and improving the *Marker Lamp* is the first task and main priority, I will begin to explore the possibilities for other longer range projects for publications. Initial ideas are in the realm of an historical narrative of the region's activities, profiles of the region's modelers and layouts, compilations of clinics and presentations at LSR conventions, etc. Projects may also include expanded media to include video, etc. that can take full advantage of digital delivery methods. Ideas, support and labor for these projects will also be solicited from the membership.

Youth Program Report

By Bob Mangrum, MMR, Youth Chair

Since assuming this position in June 2010, I have continued to send bi-weekly reminders to each member of the board encouraging them to consider eligible and deserving young people to be nominated as their division representative for 2012-2013.

To date two youth have been nominated:

Division 1 Luke Broussard of Early

Division 3 Jonathan Ball of Ft Worth

Pike Ads

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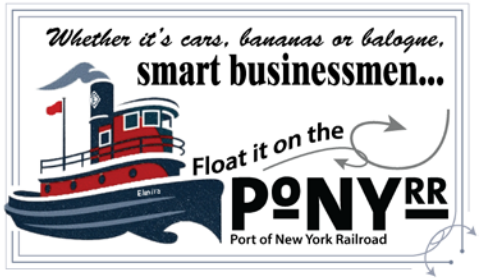

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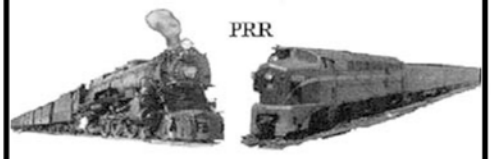

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Deadline for submissions is October 15

The Marker Lamp

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